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ACCUSED OF BEING A SEX WORKER

CONDOMS IN TRAVELLER'S BAGGAGE RUBBED U.S. CUSTOMS THE WRONG WAY, A MONTREAL WOMAN CLAIMS PAGE 6

Ontario has work to do on its job laws

Commission calls on province to make sweeping changes to protect vulnerable workers PAGE 3

Evil Dead isn't out of the woods yet

The slasher franchise returns with one more jaw-droppingly gory visit to a remote cabin PAGE 12

Jays bats kept in check on opening day

Dickey's debut spoiled as Cleveland Indians win 4-1 in front of a sellout crowd at the Dome PAGE 22

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Ford gags at Metrolinx plan

Funding. Shortlist of potential transit-building revenue includes taxes, fare hike — but no casino

JESSICA SMITH
jessica.smith@metronews.ca

Mayor Rob Ford's reaction to Metrolinx's shortlist of ways to fund transit expansion in the GTHA was to pretend to vomit, then laugh and say a casino could pay for it all.

"Mayor Ford has been pretty consistent on his position," said TTC chair Karen Stintz, when asked about Ford's faux vomit. "He's said no new taxes."

Tuesday morning Metrolinx announced a shortlist of 11 potential investment tools to fund "The Big Move" plan for transit expansion in the GTHA.

By June, Metrolinx will have narrowed down the suggestions to a suite of revenue tools that combined could raise $2 billion a year.

Then it will be up to the province and local governments in the GTHA to make decisions about how to proceed, said Metrolinx CEO Bruce McCuaig. He would not comment on the politics of the coming decisions, other than to say that governments need to do something to ease congestion.

Stintz said she welcomed Metrolinx's suggestions and the debate about them. One of the suggestions — a transit-fare increase — would be difficult because the TTC has promised that fare increases will be matched to inflation and will go solely to operating costs.

Allan O'Dette, president and CEO of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce, said most of its members support spending to improve transportation infrastructure and they're currently working on a consensus on how best to fund new projects.

However, he acknowledged there are concerns about the split between the 416 areas and the 905 on who should pay.

O'Dette maintains that The Big Move would benefit businesses in the entire region, because gridlock in the Toronto area affects them all.

WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Provincial leaders' take

- Premier Kathleen Wynne welcomed Metrolinx's suggestions and has consistently said there needs to be a dedicated revenue stream to pay for transit.
- Progressive Conservative Leader Tim Hudak said the Tories would find the money first by cutting waste in government, then looking at funding options.
- NDP Leader Andrea Horwath has said she's against citizens funding transit and would look to closing corporate-tax loopholes instead.

KEYS ON FIRE

Alicia Keys, the soulful New Yorker with the golden voice who has reaped 14 Grammys, laid down an impressive performance Tuesday for her Set the World on Fire stop at the ACC. Keys played the grand piano with unbridled passion for hits like Empire State of Mind, even hitting the floor with her eye-candy male dancers for bouncier titles like Brand New Me. TOM PANDI/FOR METRO

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No jail after girl's abduction

Patricia O'Byrne, who pleaded guilty to abducting her 20-month-old daughter and keeping her away from the girl's father for 18 years, leaves College Park court Tuesday. She was sentenced to two years less a day of house arrest. O'Byrne will serve her time at her home in Victoria, followed by two years probation. O'Byrne's daughter and father wrote statements that said jailing her will only exacerbate the harm already done. BERNARD WEIL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Changes urged for vulnerable workers

Commission. Growth of low-pay temp jobs demands provincial reform: Report

The startling rise of low-wage, temporary jobs with no benefits calls for a comprehensive provincial strategy, says the Law Commission of Ontario.

Reforming Ontario's outdated Employment Standards Act, more protection for foreign workers and beefed-up enforcement are also among the 47 recommendations in the commission's final report, to be released Wednesday, on vulnerable workers and "precarious work."

"The transformation that is taking place in the world of work is dynamic, and even experts are uncertain where it will land," says the 175-page report.

"Governments, businesses, community agencies and unions each have a role to play to reach out to vulnerable workers who are finding themselves left behind."

The commission's report comes on the heels of a February study by McMaster University and the United Way that found that half of working adults in the Toronto and Hamilton regions have unstable jobs. Such "precarious work" causes household stress and limits people's ability to participate in their communities.

The law commission's report focuses on the estimated 22 per cent of Ontario workers in low-wage, unstable employment.

Workers in this group are more likely to include immigrants, people of colour, women, single parents, youth, and disabled and aboriginal residents, the report found.

However, it notes that the changes it recommends would help all people in low-wage, part-time, casual, contract and temporary jobs with no benefits. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Details

The report, commissioned in 2008, incorporates input from workers, unions, employers, academics and advocacy groups, as well as a review of recent research on the issue.

- It calls on Queen's Park to make a broad policy statement highlighting the government's commitment to protect basic rights included in the Employment Standards Act.
- The act, which sets out minimum wages, statutory holidays, overtime, severance and termination pay, is riddled with exemptions based on occupations, hours of work or length of service, the report notes. That has eroded the law's commitment to workplace protection, the report says.

Chemotherapy

Cancer victims got too-low drug doses

Cancer Care Ontario says four hospitals are informing patients that they received lower-than-intended doses of the chemotherapy drugs cyclophosphamide and gemcitabine.

At total of 990 patients treated or being treated at London Health Sciences Centre, Windsor Regional Hospital, Lakeridge Health and Peterborough Regional Health Centre are affected.

The hospitals are working with the drug supplier to find the cause of the error.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tentative agreement

Younger teachers get sick-day deal

Younger high school teachers in Ontario will be given a much better payout for their banked sick days than their more senior colleagues under a new tentative agreement with the Liberal government, The Canadian Press has learned.

Teachers with less than 10 years on the job will get 25 cents on every dollar for sick days they banked, compared with 10 cents on the dollar most teachers will get for their unused sick days, government sources said Tuesday.

Speaking in Peterborough, Premier Kathleen Wynne insisted Tuesday the updated tentative agreement would not cost the province any additional money.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Medical group

OMA fears for heavy drinkers

The Ontario Medical Association says the province has a drinking problem and the government must do something about it.

The organization says heavy drinking is very common and gets far less attention than alcoholism, even though it also has potentially serious consequences.

"The problems are there now, we see them every day," OMA president Dr. Doug Weir said, pointing to chronic conditions like insomnia and depression and dangerous behaviours that can cause injury or death.

Dr. Doug Weir
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heavy drinking is defined as consuming more than the recommended maximum weekly amount, which is 10 standard drinks for women and 15 for men.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Repairs to east Gardiner on hold

John Kelly, of engineering and construction services, talks on Tuesday at city hall about plans to repair the Gardiner. COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The city is holding off on major repairs to the eastern end of the Gardiner Expressway, which city staff have said could remain safe for only six more years.

The work is being put off for at least a year pending the results from Waterfront Toronto's environmental assessment.

Instead, interim repairs for key areas will continue along the east end of the nearly 60-year-old cross-town expressway.

Gwen McIntosh of Waterfront Toronto says the options for the roadway include doing nothing, replacing parts of the Gardiner or removing it altogether.

The repair bill for the elevated expressway is estimated at $495 million over the next decade.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ford must pay own legal bills: Court

Conflict-of-interest case. 'I've got to swallow over 100 grand,' the mayor fumes

Mayor Rob Ford will have to foot his own legal bills for his fight to keep his job after a citizen's application to have him removed for conflict of interest, a court ruled on Tuesday.

A Divisional Court panel decided against awarding costs because the case raised novel issues of law and Ford's narrow appeal win was not an outright victory.

Ford had sought about $116,000 from Paul Magder, who almost succeeded in having the mayor ousted for taking part in a council vote in which he had a financial interest.

Ford called the court's decision "ridiculous."

"I won it fair and square. I think Magder should pay," he told reporters on Tuesday. "I've got to swallow over 100 grand ... it's a lot of money."

Magder argued against any award to Ford on the grounds he was acting as a public-interest litigant.

Ford, who blamed a left-wing conspiracy after the courts initially ordered him out of office, argued Magder was "in the pursuit of a political agenda."

But the Divisional Court ruled otherwise. It noted that even though Ford was allowed to stay in office, his appeal succeeded on only one of four grounds. The court also found the proceedings helped clarify parts of the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act.

Clayton Ruby, the lawyer who represented Magder, said Ford had "scuppered" his own request for costs with his "wilful blindness" in taking part in the vote.

Magder is now asking the Supreme Court of Canada to take another look at the case.

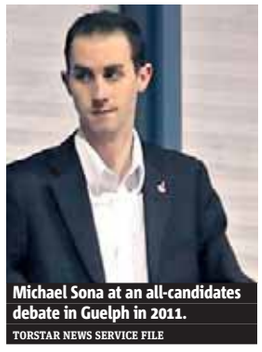
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Robocalls. Conservative campaign worker charged

A Conservative campaign worker in Guelph has been charged under the Elections Act in relation to fraudulent robocalls made during the 2011 federal-election campaign.

Elections Canada said Tuesday that Michael Sona, 24, has been "charged with having wilfully prevented or endeavoured to prevent an elector from voting at an election." Sona worked on the campaign of Conservative candidate Marty Burke in Guelph.

Elections Canada has been investigating almost 1,400 fraudulent robocalls in more than 200 of the country's 308 ridings that purported to be from the elections regulator.



Michael Sona at an all-candidates debate in Guelph in 2011. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Voters were told their polling stations had been moved. The fraudulent calls appeared to target identified non-Conservative voters.

Sona was initially fingered by sources in the Conservative party but has loudly and repeatedly asserted he was being made a scapegoat by party brass.

His lawyer, Norm Boxall, repeated that denial in a statement on Tuesday and said the charge laid is an opportunity for Sona to address the allegations in court. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"I hope that the charge we filed today will send a strong message that such abuses under the Canada Elections Act will not be tolerated."

Yves Cote, commissioner, Elections Canada

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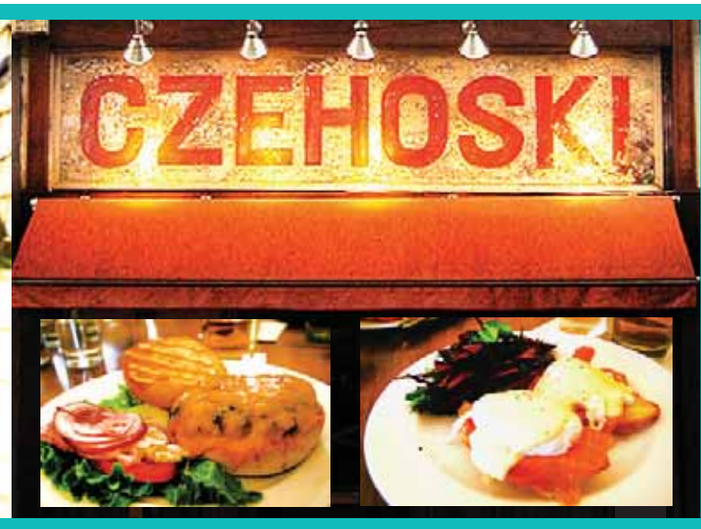

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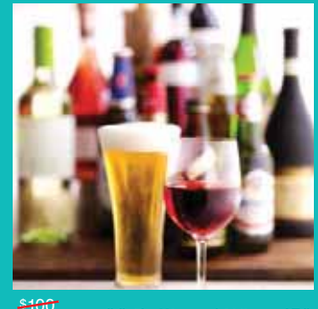

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Student says she was accused of being a sex worker by U.S. customs

Three times. UBC student alleges she was flagged for carrying condoms and lingerie

KATE WEBB
Metro in Vancouver

A UBC student who tried to go through U.S. customs three times last month while carrying condoms and sexy lingerie says she was interrogated for hours, accused of being a sex worker and warned she could be banned from the U.S. for five years.

Creative-writing student Clay Nikiforuk, 24, has asked that her real name be withheld. She said she was told she now needs a visa proving she has no intent to settle in the U.S. to cross the border.

Her ordeal started in early March. Alone, she boarded a bus to Boston from Montreal, where she lives and is enrolled in distance education.

At the border crossing in Vermont, she said officers questioned her about eight or so condoms in her suitcase and about her undergarments.

Nikiforuk was eventually let through but didn't learn until later she had been flagged as a suspected prostitute.

On March 24, she was back in Montreal heading through U.S. customs on a flight to Aruba via Miami accompanied by a married man.

Nikiforuk said the man's wife knows about their affair.

She said as soon as she gave her passport to U.S. border control she was asked, "How much is he paying you to go on this trip?"

When she said he was not, she was berated for participating in adultery but let go.

When it was time to travel home from Aruba on March 27, she says U.S. customs interrogated her for eight hours. When asked what, if not sex work, she does for a living, she said she is writing a book about sexual assault.

"He asked, 'Are you looking to be sexually assaulted?'" she said.

She alleges that after hours of interrogation she was denied entry to the U.S., although her partner was not questioned. They spent $900 each on plane tickets to Canada via Panama, plus paid for two extra nights in a hotel.

She admits she has been paid for some freelance modelling work in the U.S. but insists she was questioned in all three instances in March primarily on suspicion of being a sex worker.

U.S. Customs and Border Patrol spokesman Mike Milne said he cannot comment due to privacy laws, but that in general anyone coming into the U.S. frequently is assumed to be an intended immigrant.

Legal checkup

Suspicion is enough

Miami-based immigration lawyer Steve Goldstein said he's never heard of someone being barred from entering the U.S. solely because they were carrying condoms.

And he said he suspects there were likely other factors at play for the student, such as her website stating she does nude modelling and the fact she was travelling with a married man.

U.S. Customs and Border Patrol spokesman Mike Milne said suspicion of prostitution is enough to deny someone admission to the country under U.S. immigration law.

METRO

Clay Nikiforuk, who asked that her real name be withheld, says she was interrogated by U.S. border agents for eight hours last week and denied a flight on suspicion of being a sex worker. CONTRIBUTED

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Fallen from grace.
Former priest pleads guilty to meth charges

A suspended U.S.-based Catholic priest accused of making more than $300,000 in methamphetamine sales while running a sex shop pleaded guilty Tuesday to a federal drug charge.

Kevin Wallin, 61, admitted to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine, and was scheduled to be sentenced June 25. The prosecution and defence agreed on a sentence of 11 to 14 years in prison.

Prosecutors said Wallin had meth mailed to him from California and sold the drugs out of his apartment last year. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Suspicions

Kevin Wallin was suspended from public ministry last May amid concerns by church officials about a number of problems, including sexually inappropriate behaviour with other men.

Gun debate

Schools should arm staff members, says NRA report

Schools across the U.S. should train staff members to carry weapons and should each have armed security officers to make students safer and allow a quicker response to an attack, the director of a National Rifle Association-sponsored study said Tuesday.

"The presence of an armed security personnel in a school adds a layer of security and diminishes the response time that is beneficial to the overall security," said former Republican Rep. Asa Hutchinson, who led the study. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

London pair's al-Qaida links stun community

Killed in gas-plant siege. Ont. city's Muslim community calls for understanding, denounces terrorism as local ties to Algeria attack surface

Ali Medlej was a football player. "A big guy," as Darek Bishop puts it. "He was probably like six-foot-two, 250 pounds."

Xristos Katsiroubas was a "preppy kid" whose demeanor took a turn for the worse between his first and second years of high school.

"He started hanging out with shady people, and I saw him change," Bishop said. "He was talking different, his whole attitude changed."

It's been over five years since Bishop roamed the halls of a London, Ont., high school with Medlej and Katsiroubas.

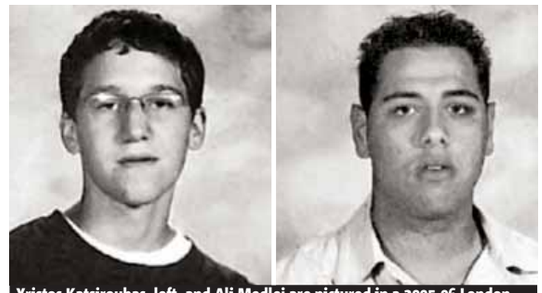
Now he — and many other Londoners — are left wondering how two local boys could be part of an al-Qaida-led attack on an Algerian gas plant.

"I smoked cigarettes two feet away from (Katsiroubas)," said Bishop, now 23. "I didn't expect any of this to happen."

There were more questions than answers Tuesday after reports that Medlej and Katsiroubas were the two Canadians found dead at the plant, where terrorists led a four-day siege at the facility in January during which 38 hostages and 29 militants were killed.

Leaders of the Muslim community quickly denounced the terrorists' actions and called for greater understanding.

Dr. Munir El Kassem, of the Islamic Centre of Southwest Ontario, and others said they didn't know Medlej or Katsiroubas, both of whom converted to Islam from other faiths while in their teens. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO



Xristos Katsiroubas, left, and Ali Medlej are pictured in a 2005-06 London South Collegiate Institute yearbook. The high school friends were part of an al-Qaida-led terrorist attack in Algeria. MARK SPOWART/METRO

At a glance

- Media reports indicate CSIS was asking questions about Medlej and Katsiroubas in 2007.
- Two others from the London area might have travelled to Algeria with Medlej and Katsiroubas, according to reports, but it isn't known if they were involved in the attack.
- Intelligence officials have said dozens of Canadians have ventured abroad, or tried to do so, to take part in violent operations.

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Are airline's fat fares fair?

Pay-as-you-weigh. Samoa Air will charge passengers for baggage — and personal bulk

Samoa Air has become the first airline in the world to charge passengers by weight.

Instead of a flat rate per seat, the airline will charge passengers a fixed price per kilogram, with the price varying depending on the route.

The pay-as-you-weigh system was announced on the airline's website. "We at Samoa Air are keeping airfares fair, by charging our passengers only for what they weigh. You are the master of your Air 'fair,' you decide how much (or little) your ticket will cost.

"No more exorbitant excess baggage fees, or being charged for baggage you may not carry. Your weight plus your baggage items is what you pay for. Simple."

Passenger poundage

"Anyone who travels at times has felt they have been paying for half of the passenger next to them."
Chris Langton, CEO of Samoa Air

The airline posted the news on its Facebook page, getting mixed reactions. Some liked the idea, while one dissenter, Guvanch Meredov, called it "immoral and discriminating." Another suggested the policy is like asking people with bigger feet to pay extra for bigger shoes.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Pay-as-you-weigh airfares are unlikely to come to Canada because of human rights legislation and other legal issues. GETTY IMAGES FILE

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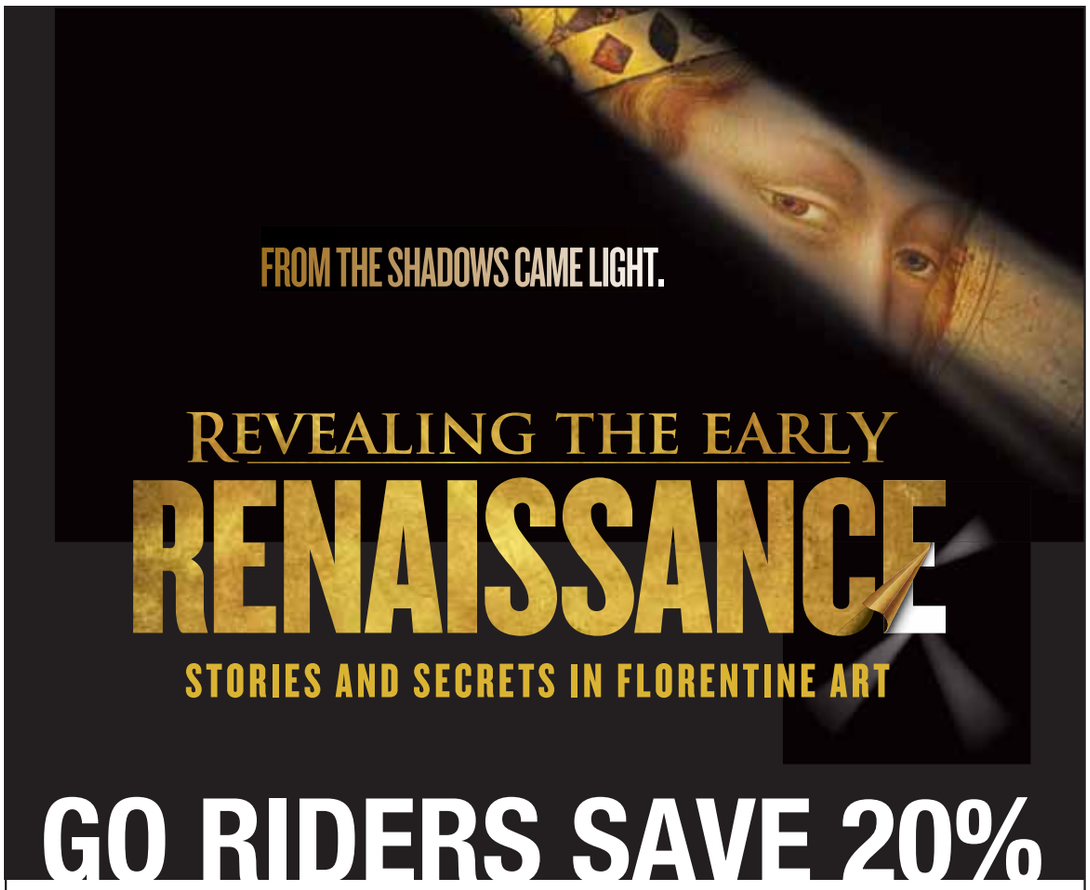

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Bernardo Daddi, A Crowned Virgin Martyr (detail), ca. 1334-38. Tempera and gold leaf on panel, 61.6 x 30.5 cm. Gift of the Samuel H. Kress Foundation. © Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

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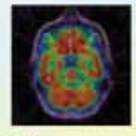

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Social chatter. Facebook grousing never gets old

Has Facebook become less fun? That's something many users — especially those in their teens and early 20s — are asking themselves as they wade through endless posts, photos "liked" by people they barely know and spur-of-the moment friend requests. Has it all become too much of a chore?

"When I first got Facebook I literally thought it was the coolest thing to have. If you had a Facebook you kind of fit in better, because other people had one," says Rachel Fernandez, 18, who first signed on to the site four or five years ago.

And now? "Facebook got kind of boring," she says.

Chatter about Facebook's demise never seems to die down, whether it's talk of "Facebook fatigue," or grousing about how the social network lost its cool once grandma joined. The Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project recently found that some 61 per cent of Facebook users had taken a hiatus from the site for reasons that range from "too much gossip and drama" to "boredom." Some respondents said there simply isn't enough time in their day for Facebook.

If Facebook Inc.'s users leave, or even check in less frequently, its revenue growth would suffer. The company, which depends on targeted advertising for most of the money it makes, booked revenue of $5.1 billion US in 2012, up from $3.7 billion a year earlier.

But so far, for every person who has left permanently, several new people have joined up.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Daily users

618M

Of Facebook's more than one billion users, 618 million sign in every day.

Telemarketing

CRTC fines firms for robocalls

Canada's telecommunications regulator has fined two companies over their telemarketing practices. The CRTC says Ontario Consumer Credit Assistance and Quick Connect Solutions both failed to get the consent of people they robocalled to promote their services. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economic crisis

Cypriot finance minister resigns

Cypriot Finance Minister Michalis Sarris has resigned following the launch of an investigation into how the country's economy nearly collapsed last month. The minister has faced strong criticism for his handling of negotiations with Cyprus's international creditors.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Online privacy

Google policy faces legal action in 6 EU countries

Google's new privacy policy is under legal attack from regulators in its largest European markets, who want the firm to overhaul practices they say let it create a data goldmine at the expense of unwitting users.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Record unemployment

Eurozone jobless rate hits 12%

The eurozone economy has passed another bleak milestone. Official figures Tuesday showed that unemployment across the 17 European Union countries that use the euro has struck 12 per cent for the first time since the currency was launched in 1999.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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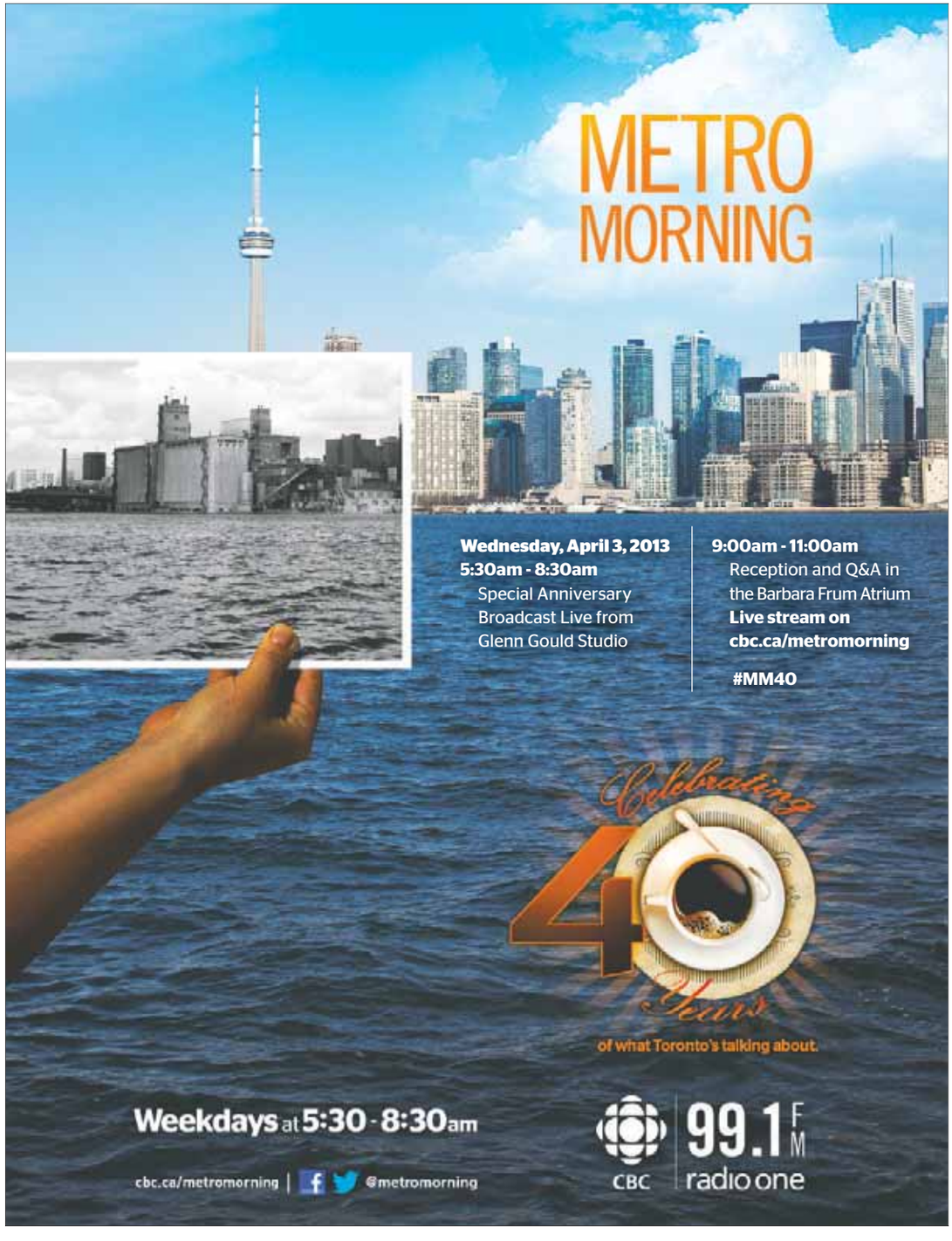
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IT'S ALL COMING UP WIKI

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

There's a game I like to play with myself.

No, not that game.

It's a game called, "If I time travel to today from the year I was born, what about the future would most blow my mind?"

Never mind when I was born. You just need to know it was long ago and far away.

There are lots of candidates: the microwave oven, the smartphone, the car that parks itself, drones, ebooks, the International Space Station, will.i.am, The Bachelorette.

But how about Wikipedia?

All the knowledge of the world at your fingertips. Over 22 million articles in 285 languages, 4.2 million in English alone.

Wikipedia has only been around since 2001, and already it's solved the stupid dinner party argument. Now, instead of a long, boring argument, there's a moment of silence as everyone (let's be honest, just the guys) finds the answer on Wikipedia.

While it takes all the fun out of being a know-it-all — now anyone can be a know-it-all — it cuts down on relationship wear and tear.

"I can't believe you allowed that fathead Charles to bait you like that. Just let it go. Who cares what the national bird of Argentina is?"

"I care. It's the Rufous Hornero."

That was then. Now, in the future, the Rufous Hornero and other contentious beasts are at your fingertips, in a Wikipedia article called National Animals.

They don't call it wiki ("quick" in Hawaiian) pedia (for "encyclopedia") for nothing.

As you probably know, Wikipedia is written and edited by mostly anonymous people who do it for nothing. They are constantly working away on this global treasure, editing and updating the articles 24/7.

So far, there have been more than 600 million edits. Talk about a peer review. And April is contributors' month in Canada, when Wikipedia nerds organize workshops designed to make articles better. Sign me up for the Rufous Hornero session.

Of course, Wikipedia has its detractors. Despite its strict policy of neutrality, some people think they see biases. But those are the people who see biases everywhere (See Wikipedia: Noam Chomsky). Others are concerned that relying on reliable sources breeds orthodoxy.

Imagine what they'd say if Wikipedia switched to unreliable sources.

In one lifetime, we've gone from a world where only a few wealthy nations had access to the world's knowledge, and even that required access to a good reference library. Now, instead of a library, all you need is a smartphone. Instead of a librarian telling you to shush! you can ask Wikipedia. Yell if you like.

This year it's expected that smartphones account for 70 per cent of the mobile device market in the U.S. (Wikipedia: Smartphone). I'm not sure what happens when all that knowledge gets around, as even a little learning is a dangerous thing.

There's another term for Wikipedia. It's called Pandora's Box.

Look it up. You know where.

ZOOM

A canyon of colours

GREGORY BORATYN/REX FEATURES

Photography art that's a snap

This image looks as if it was taken in a fantastical canyon on some alien planet. In truth, it's an amazing picture of Arizona's Antelope Canyon taken by amateur photographer Gregory Boratyn.

The 42-year-old software engineer from San Diego has shown the popular geological wonder in a new light thanks to clever use of photo software.

"First, I decided to make them monochrome," said Boratyn.

"The place in the summertime is quite cold, so instead of black and white I decided to go with blue and black to emphasize the coldness of the rock and the place itself. The colours of red, orange and blue are called complementary and they made the image more pleasant to human eyes, which was my intention."

METRO WORLD NEWS

It lens itself

- Photography software used to enhance the canyon's textures: Nik Silver Efex Pro 2, Viveza 2, Adobe Photoshop CS6.

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Ready to make the leap from fledgling sophisticated patron of the arts to bona fide sophisticated patron of the arts? Help yourself along with these entry-level primers on classical music and opera.

Opera Five

The Toronto-based collective's cheeky Opera Cheats series strips away the more intimidating aspects of opera to reveal the murder and adultery that's been entertaining us for centuries. (youtube.com/operafive)

CDZA

Classical musicians woo new fans with cool experiments such as a piece based entirely on classic ringtones or a pop medley that showcases key changes. Occasional cross dressing and sax-playing dinosaurs keep things lively. (cdzamusic.com)

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Did you know it takes a 22-km walk to burn off a Big Mac meal? What food would you walk 22 km for?

@MR_BF7: That does not include the GREASE!

@JessicaSquibb: tub of coconut oil. Weird?

@bexbz: Literally nothing

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

Comments

RE: Freezing Weather Wipes Out German Flea Circus, published March 31

A day early, folks a day early.
Myworkisdonehere posted to metronews.ca

RE: Americans Furious Over Google's Easter 'Doodle', published March 31

Google is a business. They owe zero allegiance to ANY religion on ANY day of the year. (American here.)
Koreginald posted to metronews.ca

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: Send us your comments: torontoletters@metronews.ca

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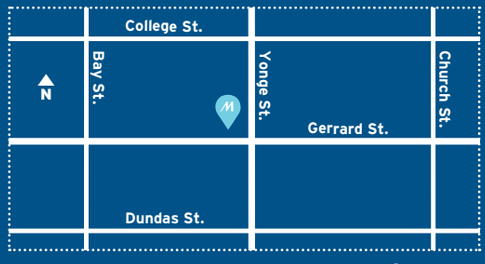

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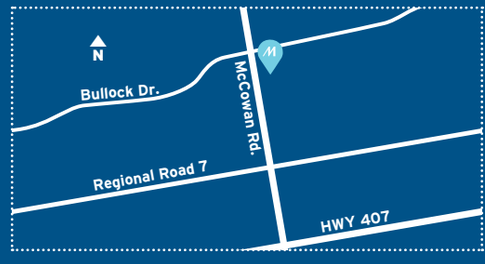

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Ceremony

Elton John and partner to be celebrated

Elton John and his longtime songwriting partner, Bernie Taupin, will be honoured at this year's Songwriters Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

John and Taupin, who teamed on most of the singer's best-known hits, will receive the Johnny Mercer Award during the June 13 ceremony in New York.

Elton John
GETTY IMAGES

Video

Leno and Fallon poke fun at Late Night rumours

Jay Leno and Jimmy Fallon poked fun at the late-night rumours swirling around them in a music video that aired between their back-to-back NBC shows Monday night.

In a spoof of the romantic ballad Tonight from West Side Story, Leno, who was backstage at the Tonight show on the West Coast, and Fallon, in his Late Night office in Manhattan, serenaded each other by cellphone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jane Levy stars in the latest instalment of Evil Dead, which opens this weekend. HANDOUT

What could go wrong at a remote cabin? Lots

Horror films. Evil Dead returns this weekend, bringing a fresh take on the genre that has seen lots of clueless, pretty people killed over the years

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

Are there any more frightening words in a horror movie synopsis than "five friends head to a remote cabin?"

That phrase has been the starting point for many scary scripts, conjuring up visions of ancient evil life forms, dangerous hillbilly types, mysterious incantations and lines like, "No matter what, we have to stay together."

The cabin-in-the-woods genre is decades old, but almost always follows the same formula: five good-looking teens, say, a jock, a stoner, some hot girls, one a brainiac, and a party girl go to a cabin, and only one or two make it home.

This weekend's Evil Dead shakes up the formula to an extent.

In it some handsome people head to an isolated cottage not to drink and party but to help Mia (Jane Levy) kick her addiction to drugs.

The details are different, but the outcome — and this isn't a spoiler, just a statement of fact — is the same and that's what we like about the genre.

The most well loved cabin in the woods movies must be the first two Sam Raimi Evil Dead films.

The original, and namesake of the series, was actually shot in a real life abandoned cottage.

In it five friends go to a cabin in the woods (sound familiar?), discover a Book of the Dead and unleash flesh-possessing demons.

It made a star of Bruce Campbell and led to a sequel, Evil Dead II, another cabin movie that is equal parts silly and scary.

Eli Roth made his directorial debut with Cabin Fever, a movie inspired by real life events.

The idea for a film about a group of friends in a (you guessed it!) cabin in the woods, tormented by a flesh-eating virus and homicidal townsfolk, came to him as he worked on a horse farm.

"I was cleaning hay out of this barn and got this infection on my face," he says.

The rash got so bad that, "I went to shave and I literally shaved a third of my face off."

It hurt, but he looked at the bright side.

"I thought, 'This is actually going make a great movie one day.'"

Sleepaway Camp — ignore the sequels, although the number two's title Unhappy Campers is pretty great — sets the action at a summer camp.

This gory slasher flick is most notable for a wild twist ending that has been called a "jaw-dropping, tape-rewinding, pause-and-stare-and-call-your-friends-over-to-stare" moment.

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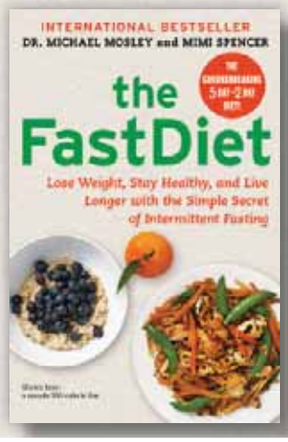
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The search for the real Charlotte Church

Music. You probably remember her as the classical music kid, but she's all grown up now

MEREDITH ENGEL
scene@metronews.ca

Charlotte Church's latest release has a gothic feel reminiscent of Radiohead, Bjork and LCD Soundsystem. GETTY IMAGE

By age 21, Charlotte Church had dazzled everyone from the pope to the president, earning legions of fans with her angelic, operatic voice. But forever being known as a classical artist wasn't what she wanted for herself.

"It's a beautiful art form, but I just sort of found it limiting," says the Welsh singer songwriter, now 27, who just debuted One & Two, two EPs that are her first U.S. releases in more than a decade. "I just wanted to express (myself) in a different way and after a while, singing somebody else's music, I found it dull."

One & Two isn't Church's first crossover attempt, but it's the first one she truly believes in. She calls an earlier pop album of hers "a really s— album, a throwaway, commercial album," and says that it took so long for her to make a return to the States because "I just never felt like it was right and I never felt like I had anything really good that I really wanted to push."

During her time out of the U.S. spotlight, she had two kids, hosted a sketch television show in the U.K. and was a victim of Britain's phone-hacking scandal. She calls the renewed attention on her music, as opposed to her personal life, "incredibly liberating."

Church admits that reframing people's opinions of her and the type of music she performs "has been pretty challenging."

"It's sort of a good thing because I think that a lot of people have a lot of affection for me and my music when I was little. And, I don't know, especially over here because I've been famous for such a long time, you (become) some distant family member, or like a character in a long-running show," she says. "So it's really sweet and I do often hear, 'Oh, you should go back to classical music' but I don't know, I feel like I've sort of done that."

Church wrote and self-released One & Two on her own label, Alligator Wine. The music's haunting, gothic beat evokes the sounds of Radiohead, Bjork and LCD Soundsystem. But Church says the heaviness of her new sound shouldn't be taken at face value.

"Even if you are in a happy relationship — and I've got two beautiful children — there are still certain times when life sucks," she says. "We have a masterfully complex range of emotions, and I think even though a lot of the stuff on both EPs is kind of dark, the one thing that I sort of always aim for is ... some sound of hopefulness."

No strings attached

Just because Church is a singer with TV experience doesn't mean she's holding out hope for a spot at the X Factor judges' table.

"I'd rather poke my eye out with a sharp stick," she says. "I don't agree with shows like that. It's the wrong way to look for new talent and I also think it's terribly exploitative of young people ... Everybody has an opinion and you have to be strong — and I don't think that everybody is. It's also just a weird thing to go through, to get your success via that. And all the sort of heartfelt stories that you have on everybody, it's just — you can just see the strings, you know what I mean?"

Sigur Ros. However serious their music might sound, they ain't a somber bunch

There are no hard feelings after Kjartan Sveinsson left Sigur Ros. GETTY IMAGES

LINDA LABAN
scene@metronews.ca

At the top of the year, Icelandic post-rockers Sigur Ros announced that after 14 years, multi-instrumentalist Kjartan Sveinsson had left the band.

"I guess he's tired of touring and wanted to do other stuff," says bassist Georg Holm matter-of-factly. "It's all on a very friendly note."

Indeed, there seems to be no drama surrounding Sveinsson's departure, and the remaining trio — Holm, singer Jon "Jonsi" Por Birgisson and drummer Orri Pall Dyrason — have already recorded a new album, titled Kveikur, which Holm says is "as good as finished."

It comes less than a year after Sigur Ros released their sixth studio album Valtari.

"We've been very productive. We've been working quickly and having great fun. When you're having fun, it's easy to go to work. If you enjoy what you do, it's all fun. We never really stop working."

Three to 13

Sigur Ros and the word fun don't exactly go hand-in-hand. Their emotionally engulfing and sometimes wrought music gives them a serious aura.

"We are absolutely not very serious people," says Holm with an insistent chuckle. For their spring tour, the core creative trio will be augmented with strings and brass. Their set will feature 13 musicians in all. "We actually have two extra people to replace Kjaten," says Holm. "One playing guitar and one playing piano. Yeah, it was big shoes to fill."

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Lindsay Lohan. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Lohan gets in on the April Fools' Day pranks

Lindsay Lohan made a very last-minute decision to continue her adventures in Brazil this week, making her way to the São Paulo airport for a flight back to New York only to opt out of getting on the plane, according to E! News.

While her manager took the flight as planned, Lohan reportedly checked herself into the Emiliano Hotel alone with a female friend.

"She's staying on her own dime," a source says. "She is staying against everyone's advice."

Lohan's promotional trip to Brazil for a denim company was to be followed by a quick trip to NYC before heading to L.A. for the Coachella Music Festival and then 90 days of court-ordered rehab.

The extended vacation also gave Lohan a chance to get in on the fun of pulling an April Fools' prank on her Twitter followers, posting, "It's official. Pregnant..." and drawing a flood of shocked reactions.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

What's lower than scamming kids with cancer?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Oh man. This is not good. I mean, in the spectrum of "not good things," this ranks pretty much at the top: Lamar Odom and wife Khloe Kardashian's charity for kids with cancer looks like a scam.

That's right, they are fleecing kids with cancer.

The only thing worse than scamming kids with cancer? Scamming kids with AIDS. That's it. There's nothing worse. (OK, maybe scamming orphans with AIDS and/or cancer, but that's really it.)

A new report by ESPN (and this marks the first time ESPN has been mentioned in this column) says that Odom's charity, Cathy's Kids, which started in 2004 in honour of Odom's mother who died from stomach cancer, has raised $2.2 million, but not one cent has gone to cancer-related causes.

Instead, it seems like the money has gone to two things: the charity's executive, Jerry DeGregorio, who happened to be the best man in Kardashian's and Odom's wedding, and two elite youth basketball travel teams. It's important to note that none of the kids in the "elite basketball team" seem to be battling cancer in between games.

When approached by ESPN, Odom brushed off the allegations with, "It's my money."

Actually, if you raise $2.2 million by having people donate their cash to help children with cancer, it's not your money. I swear. Do I have to go to Hollywood myself to teach these people how to act?

Justin Bieber

Justin Bieber's pals living it up at his place

It turns out Justin Bieber doesn't even have to be home to show his friends a good time.

According to E! News, about four male pals have been crashing at Bieber's L.A. area home and throwing some pretty raucous parties in his absence, and the neighbours are taking notice.

"The music is loud and everything, but where it is, the homes are so spread apart and so big, so I don't know how they would be able to hear," a source says. "They probably complain because when people come up, there are like 20 cars. We were just drinking and doing our thing."

The house guests living it up while Bieber continues his tour include rappers Lil Twist and King Kevi.

Twitter

@BryanSinger
I can finally announce @ladygaga is joining #XMen #DaysofFuturePast as Dazzler. One of my all-time favorite characters. Can't wait!

@ActuallyNPH
My b'day is 6/15. @Davidburtka threw a surprise party for me on Saturday -blown away. I'm now on some lengthy treasure hunt that is unreal!

@lenadunham
Sad day. Realized I'm old enough that my go-to April Fools "I'm Pregnant!" is no longer that disturbing

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Tourists enjoy the rays on the Maho beach near Princess Juliana International Airport. ISTOCK

St. Maarten — the place to sip, shop and sun yourself

Island time. Pristine beaches, frosty rum drinks and plenty of shopping make this the place of cubicle dreams

ALISON BOWEN
life@metronews.ca

St. Maarten, a 60-square-kilometre island, boasts beach after beach, most framed by mountains. And these many waterfronts are put to good use with bars plopped on the water and multiple marinas. St. Maarten fulfils cubicle fantasies: crisp white sailboats against azure waters, fresh and flavourful seafood and imaginative rum drinks.

But the island, which is half Dutch and half French, also has a bonanza of different cultures, shown by more than 360 restaurants in surprising variety. So whether you're stopping over before sailing on to nearby St. Barths or St. Kitts or staying for a while, here's where to shop, sip and sun.

For filling your suitcase

Philipsburg, the capital on the Dutch side, is a must-visit for the island's legendary duty-free shopping. Stroll along the winding narrow roads and pop into the numerous jewelry and watch stores. Also a must-see? The Guavaberry Emporium, built in an old cedar house, where you can sample not only the berry liqueur but also a guava colada. The fruit has a mild, unusual sweetness. This shop is also a great place to pick up gifts, like rum bottles with colourful hand-painted sunsets and parrots.

For Caribbean blue skies and seas

Sailing aficionados should schedule their visit during the annual Heineken Regatta, where sailboats race around the island, creating picture-perfect views of colourful, billowing sails dotting royal-blue water. The event promises "serious fun" with parties every night, visitors and locals dancing the night away in flip flops on the sand. Even if you can't sail, make sure to get out on the water — the ocean is so clear, if you jump in, you can see your toes. Even that doesn't impress locals — clear to them means seeing the bottom.

Philipsburg is a must-visit site for shopaholics. ISTOCK

Where to stay

The Sonesta Maho Beach Resort and Casino, undergoing a $3 million renovation, is ideal for travellers who want a sea breeze and tropical drink 10 minutes after landing. The hotel is within walking distance to multiple restaurants, although it is all-inclusive, covering all your meals and rum punches.

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Travel tips

Looking for adventure?

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Nervous to go on an adventure holiday? I would never describe myself as an adrenaline junkie, but on a recent trip to New Zealand I crawled around darkened caves lit only by fluorescent worms, jumped 15,000 feet out of a plane, swam with dolphins in the wild ... and loved it.

As evidenced by my experience, it's not necessary to be a macho 20-something guy to go on an adventure holiday. In fact, the majority of travellers with adventure travel companies are actually women who are of an average age of 38 (though there are many in their 60s or older).

Another misconception is that you must be fighting fit, as you will be cycling the Kalahari Desert or snowshoeing to the North Pole. On the contrary, if you push yourself, even a little, outside of your regular comfort zone you are a certified adventure traveller! It could be a walking tour of Tuscany or making wine in South Africa. Additionally, it is not mandatory to go off the grid and be away for a month to be credible. Many itineraries are as short as 24 to 48 hours and make for a great mini-break from your daily routine or can be stitched into a longer holiday. If your interest is piqued, there are a few things to bear in mind as you weave some adventure into your next vacation:

-Be realistic about your fitness level.

-Go outside your comfort zone but don't freak yourself out.

-Be flexible. It is hard to plan every detail, so expect the unexpected especially when it comes to the weather.

-Read all waivers before signing and ensure you are properly protected.

-Always go with trained and properly certified professionals. Look for an official endorsement on the company's website.

Inject a little adventure in your holiday. PETER REMUS

Room with a view.
Prague TV tower boasts unique hotel option

A tall television tower in the Czech capital of Prague that has been called one of the world's ugliest buildings has a new and unique attraction, a one-room hotel looking out on the city from 70 metres above ground.

But some might argue the best thing about the view is that you don't have to look at the tower itself. The tower, which stands 216 metres tall, is a dominant but controversial landmark of the city skyline.

Prague is sometimes called the city of 100 spires, but the tower stands out amid the picturesque cityscape of centuries-old churches and other historic sites. It's the city's tallest building, at the equivalent of about 70 stories high, and it was a despised symbol of the communist regime that started building it in 1985. Locals have gradually come to accept it since its completion in 1992, but a 2009 international survey placed it second among the ugliest buildings in the world.

The tower already features a restaurant and observation deck offering a breathtaking view of the city, but a recent, thorough renovation of the spire added the hotel room.

The room is considered so luxurious that it's being advertised as six stars. It opened Feb. 13 and is available for $1,300 a night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Zizkov TV tower in Prague. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trianon Palace Versailles, A Waldorf Astoria Hotel, France

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An ancient sea on top of the world

The Burgess Shale.
Add some wonder to your wander with a trek through a site that offers a glimpse of prehistoric times

It's hard to believe that this spot — a rocky ledge well above the tree line — was under water half a billion years ago.

Equally hard to believe is that a slab of shale found there has etched on it — in strikingly sharp detail — the remains of one of Earth's earliest creatures.

It's a trilobite, one of the more common Cambrian-era insect-like critters, whose squishy bodies enabled them to be incredibly well preserved as fossils.

The Burgess Shale in Yoho National Park, in B.C., was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1981. It's also part of the larger Rocky Mountain Parks UNESCO World Heritage site.

It's "the most prolific and most significant scientific site, paleontological site, in the world," said Randle Robertson, executive director of the Burgess Shale Geoscience Foundation. "If you were to stand in Yoho Pass half a billion years ago, you could have walked in knee-deep water all the way to Winnipeg. If you'd stepped the other way, you would have stepped into one of the deepest parts of the ocean at that time," he said. "And then the mountain-building process started and that's when everything got all turned upside-down."

Hiking to the fossil beds is forbidden without a guide from either Parks Canada or the Geoscience Foundation. For both, groups are limited to 12. Removing fossils from the site is against the law.

"The fossils need to stay where they were formed, where they occurred, where the story is," said Kathryn Cameron from the Lake Louise visitor's centre.

"Yes, they're curiosities. Yes, they're interesting. Yes, we'd love to have one on our mantel at home to talk about it. But we might be losing a really critical piece of the puzzle of life."

Hikes go four times weekly to Walcott Quarry between July and mid-September and twice weekly to the Mount Stephen fossil bed between late June and mid-September.

The Parks Canada Walcott Quarry hike costs $70 per adult, and the Mount Stephen one costs $55. The Geoscience Foundation offers hikes for $120 per adult to Walcott Quarry and $90 to Mount Stephen.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Burgess Shale was named a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1981. THE CANADIAN PRESS

If you go...

- **Book a hike through Parks Canada.** pc.gc.ca
- **Book a hike through the Burgess Shale Geoscience Foundation.** burgess-shale.bc.ca

Finding fossils in the Burgess Shale can be a thrill. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Rich flavours from roasted acorn squash team up with maple syrup

Ingredients

- 2 acorn squash, halved and seeded
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) maple syrup
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 large carrot, peeled and chopped
- 1 small Granny Smith apple, peeled and chopped
- 1 l (4 cups) chicken broth, plus 250 ml (1 cup) for thinning
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) ground thyme
- Pinch of nutmeg
- Salt and freshly ground pepper
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) fresh lemon juice
- Diced apple and fresh chives for garnish

Roasted Acorn Squash Soup

This recipe serves four. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

1. Preheat oven to 200 C (400 F).

2. Brush cut side of squash with maple syrup and place cut side down on a baking sheet lightly coated with 15 ml (1 tbsp) of the olive oil. Bake 45 minutes or until tender. Allow to cool, then scrape out the squash flesh and set aside.

3. In a 4-litre (4-quart) saucepan, heat remaining 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil over medium heat. Add garlic, onion, carrot and apple. Cook for 5 minutes, then reduce heat to low and cover. Simmer, stirring occasionally, for 30 minutes or until vegetables are soft.

4. Add the cooked squash, 1 litre (4 cups) broth, thyme, and nutmeg. Simmer for 20 minutes. Allow to cool.

5. Once the mixture has cooled, blend (in two batches) in food processor or blender until smooth. Reheat soup and season to taste with salt and freshly ground pepper. Stir in fresh lemon juice and add more broth if soup is too thick. Garnish with apple and chives.

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Not all interviews created equal

So what's your type?

Whether it's in-person, in a group or on the phone, you'll know how to impress with these insider tips

SHAHEERAH KAYANI
TalentEgg.ca

So you've done the hard work of sending in your application for that dream internship, perfecting your resumé, creating that awesome cover letter, sending in your transcript. And you've been chosen for an interview. Yay!

Now comes the time to prepare and brush up on your interview skills.

One of the things you need to consider is what type of interview is it? Read below for the three main types of interviews to see what employers are looking for in each type and what you can do to ace the interview.

One-on-one interview

This is the most common type.

What the employer is seeking

It involves you and the interviewer having a one-on-one chat about why you've applied for the position, discussing your qualifications and past experiences and assessing your skills to see if you are a good fit for the employer.

What you should do

- Always bring a copy of your resumé with you to the interview and know what is on your resumé inside and out.
- When the interviewer asks you questions, you will need to refer to specific examples from your resumé and highlight what skills and strengths you developed from those experiences, as well as both the positive and negative aspects of your previous employment and how you dealt with them.

Standing out in a group interview setting is a matter of knowing what to say and when to speak up. ISTOCK

- You will also use your past experiences to talk about a weakness you may have, but make sure to emphasize how you are working to improve on those weaknesses.

Group Interview

This involves you and a few other job seekers who have applied for the same position or department as you. The employer will interview all of you simultaneously to see if you would work well in a team environment with your co-workers.

What the employer is seeking

- In this type of interview, the employer wants to assess your ability to work as part of a team by seeing you in action.
- The employer will judge you based on how you well you interact with the other applicants and your contributions to the interview discussion.

What you should do:

- Greet the other applicants and introduce yourself.
- Don't interrupt other applicants when they're talking but feel free to contribute to others' answers.
- Know what your own personal strength is when working in a team, and showcase that role well.

Telephone Interview

Based on your availability and time or location constraints, the employer may decide to interview you on the phone.

What the employer is seeking

- The employer will want to hear a clear, vibrant voice.
- He/she will be testing your ability to think on the spot and articulate your answers.

What you should do

- Firstly, schedule a phone call for a time when you know you for sure that you will be available.
- Again, have your resumé in front of you so that you can be ready to answer questions.
- Don't rush your answers, but instead take the time to form clear responses.
- Keep a calendar/agenda handy, so that you can take down important notes.

Study up!

Regardless of what type of interview it is, the key to acing it is practise, practise, practise!

- Consider checking in with your school's career service department to see if they offer mock interview, resumé critiques, and other interview help.

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You can't fail with a bit of mail

You've got the write stuff. Sending a grateful note post-interview can add a charming point in your favour

LEAH RUEHLICKE
TalentEgg.ca

Your resumé was flawless. Your cover letter impressed. You aced the interview. Now there's nothing left to do but wait. Right?

Wrong.

According to an Accountemps survey, 66 per cent of HR managers say it's beneficial to one's job search to send a thank you note after the job interview.

Raffi Toughlouian, division director of Accountemps, says a thank you note is "a good vehicle for you to reiterate your interest in a potential position, as well as reference back to specific points in the conversation that were of interest to both you and the interviewer."

Thus, a quick "thanks" not only allows you to showcase your manners, but once again gives you the chance to try and nab a position.

When writing your thank you note, use an enthusiastic tone and keep all the content positive. ISTOCK

How to write a good thank you note

Toughlouian offers the following advice for students and recent grads who are whipping up a note of gratitude:

- Keep it brief and concise
- Provide a brief recap of the skills you can bring to the job
- Be specific by highlighting key conversation points that stood out to you
- Time is of the essence: thank you notes should be sent out within 24 hours of the interview

Should you send a thank you note by email or snail mail?

"I still think there's a bit of charm to a handwritten note," Toughlouian says, "but in this day and age email just makes the most sense."

Sometimes in an interview there will be a business card exchange, which is a good indicator that email is an acceptable form of communication.

In fact, more than two thirds of HR managers say they prefer email, while 48 per cent say they'd still appreciate a handwritten note.

"[Email] is also the least intrusive method of communication," Toughlouian adds. Not only that, it ensures the message will actually get to the recipient.

For job interview situations that have multiple interviewers, direct your thank you note to the person who you had the most contact with or who booked the meeting.

You then have the option of copying (or "cc-ing") anyone else who participated in the interview. If this is the case, ensure your content is inclusive and speaking to everyone (e.g., "Thank you all for your time today…").

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Take note

What if the interview didn't go well?

- No matter how you feel the interview went, you should still send a thank you note. The interviewer may think the interview went just fine and, Toughlouian says, "You don't want to make that kind of assumption or decision for them."
- If the interview did go poorly for both ends, you should still thank the employer for their time and their consideration of you in the first place.

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Captain Blue Jays — a.k.a Warren Baxter of Oakville — gets ready for the season opener on Tuesday night at Rogers Centre. DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Jose Reyes enjoys a smile with his Jays teammates during Tuesday's introductions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cleveland shortstop Asdrubal Cabrera rounds the bases after hitting a fifth-inning homer off of Jays starter R.A. Dickey. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blue Jays right fielder Jose Bautista eyes home plate umpire Jeff Nelson after a called strikeout on Tuesday. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Blue Jays off kilter to open new era

MLB. Revamped Toronto club gets off to slow start as Cleveland spoils opening day festivities

Justin Masterson kept Blue Jays bats in check as the Cleveland Indians spoiled R.A. Dickey's Toronto debut with a 4-1 win before a sellout opening day crowd of 48,857 at Rogers Centre on Tuesday night.

The loss may be a splash of cold water on the face of Toronto fans already planning a championship parade given the extensive, expensive retooling of the roster over the winter. Cleveland planted a few seeds of reality under the dome but there is still plenty of the time for the Jays to harvest wins.

Asdrubal Cabrera hit a two-run homer for the Indians, who took advantage of some early passed balls as knuckleballer Dickey's fledgling partnership with catcher J.P. Arencibia showed some teething problems.

Dickey (0-1) went six innings in his first opening day start, giving up four runs (three earned) on five hits with four strikeouts, four walks and a wild pitch. He threw 104 pitches, including 60 strikes.

Masterson (1-0) struck out five and walked four while giving up one earned run and three hits in his six innings.

Toronto left five on base over the first three innings and then Masterson found his touch — he dismissed 11 in a row starting in the third. Some sharp Cleveland fielding also helped blunt Toronto's attack.

The Jays' starting lineup featured five newcomers: Shortstop Jose Reyes, outfielder Melky Cabrera, third baseman Maicer Izturis, second baseman Emilio Bonifacio and Dickey. The quintet is due to make $28.85 million US this season.

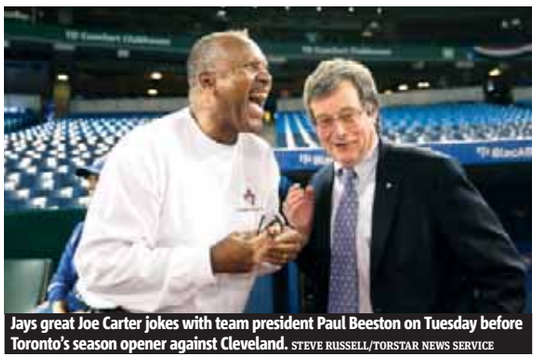
The five are among 11 new faces on the Jays' 25-man revamped roster this season, boosting total payroll to north of $125 million.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

On Tuesday

Indians	Blue Jays
4	1

MLB. Carter says 2013 Blue Jays just have to 'relax'



Jays great Joe Carter jokes with team president Paul Beeston on Tuesday before Toronto's season opener against Cleveland. STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Former Toronto Blue Jays outfielder Joe Carter knows a thing or two about high expectations.

Big things were expected the year after Toronto's first World Series title in 1992. The Blue Jays rose to the occasion again in 1993, with Carter anchoring the team and sealing the series victory with a walk-off homer in Game 6.

The buzz is back in the Ontario capital this year after a busy off-season marked by some stunning trades and spending.

Carter's advice for the 2013 edition of the team? Don't get caught up in the hype.

"When you have new guys come in — as many as the Jays have coming in now — the tendency is to go out there and try to do too much, too early," Carter told The Canadian Press.

"And then when you do that, you put yourself in a hole. What they've got to do is just go out there and try to relax as much as possible and trust their teammates and believe in their teammates and not try to do it themselves."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Slumping Stars clearly rebuilding

The Dallas Stars on Tuesday traded 41-year Jaromir Jagr to Boston and sent surging centre Derek Roy to Vancouver.

The moves came a day after a 4-0 loss to Anaheim. Dallas got two young prospects and a conditional second-round pick from Boston, and a 23-year-old defenceman and a second-round pick from Vancouver.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Crosby released from hospital

Pittsburgh Penguins captain Sidney Crosby has been released from hospital after suffering a broken jaw in a game last weekend.

The Penguins confirmed on their Twitter account that Crosby was released Monday. He will be out of the Penguins' lineup indefinitely.

Crosby suffered the injury in the first period of the Penguins' 2-0 win over the New York Islanders when he was struck in the mouth by a puck from a deflected slapshot.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

UEFA

Messi limps off in quarter-final against PSG

Lionel Messi scored and injured a hamstring, and Barcelona was held to a 2-2 tie by Paris Saint-Germain the first leg of their Champions League quarterfinal on Tuesday night when Blaise Matuidi scored for the hosts on the last kick of the game.

Messi's 38th-minute goal was his 57th of the season and the 59th of his career in the Champions League. Barcelona said Messi will undergo tests Wednesday on his right hamstring.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lionel Messi celebrates his first-half goal on Tuesday in Paris, France. CLIVE ROSE/GETTY IMAGES

Leafs' Reimer thankful for deadline reprieve

NHL. With trade rumours swirling, Leafs backstop content to be on hiatus until Thursday

Goaltender James Reimer is very thankful the Toronto Maple Leafs don't play again until after the NHL trade deadline.

Clubs have until 3 p.m. on Wednesday to make deals and reshape their rosters. Of course, it's an unsettling time for NHL players, including Toronto goaltenders Reimer and Ben Scrivens, with the Leafs looking at possibly adding Calgary veteran Miikka Kiprusoff for their stretch run.

Fortunately for Reimer, Toronto is in the midst of a four-day break and doesn't play again until Thursday against the Philadelphia Flyers.

"I think it's a huge distraction," Reimer said Tuesday.

"If you have the opportunity to not be playing I think that's probably almost a benefit."

Reimer, 25, and Scrivens, 26, have both been solid in helping stake Toronto (20-12-4) into a tie with Ottawa (19-10-6) for fifth in the Eastern Conference standings before Tuesday night's games.

James Reimer has a 13-4-4 record this season, but talk persists that the Leafs must shore up their goaltending with an experienced puck-stopper as the club appears poised to end a nine-year playoff drought. KATHY KMONICEK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The six-foot-two, 208-pound Reimer has a 13-4-4 record, 2.52 goals-against average, .920 save percentage and two shutouts in 22 appearances this season. Scrivens is 7-8-0 in 18 games boasting a 2.59 GAA and .918 save percentage with two shutouts.

But neither Reimer nor Scrivens has any NHL playoff experience. So the Leafs have reportedly received permission from the Calgary Flames to speak with Kiprusoff's representatives.

The 36-year-old boasts a career 2.48 GAA and .913 save percentage. He still has a year remaining on a deal that reportedly doesn't include a no-trade clause, but talk is Kiprusoff has made it clear if he's dealt he won't report to his new team.

"All you can control is how you play. I know it's a huge cliché, obviously, but it's the truth," Reimer said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CFL

Argonauts acquire DT Mitchell from B.C. Lions

The Toronto Argonauts shored up their defensive line Tuesday by acquiring all-star tackle Khalif Mitchell from the B.C. Lions for defensive end Adrian Awasom and the rights to a negotiation list player.

The six-foot-five, 316-pound Mitchell was a CFL all-star in 2011 after registering six sacks and 33 tackles in helping B.C. win the Grey Cup. But last season he was suspended for two games by the league after hyper-extending the arm of Edmonton Eskimos offensive lineman Simeon Rottier during a game.

He was also fined by the CFL last October for tweeting a term that was derogatory toward Chinese. Mitchell later apologized, saying he didn't know the word was offensive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Curling

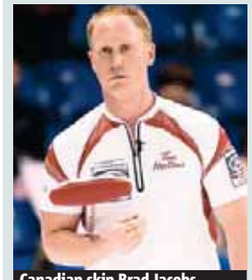
Jacobs drops 1st match at worlds

Canada's Brad Jacobs is no longer undefeated at the world men's curling championship in Victoria.

Jiri Snitil of the Czech Republic beat Jacob's rink 6-4 in the morning draw, handing Canada its first loss after five straight victories.

Snitil improved his record to 3-3 with the win.

The Czechs caught a break in the ninth when Jacobs missed a raise takeout, allowing Snitil to register another steal of one for a 6-4 lead going into the final end. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Canadian skip Brad Jacobs
THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Miami	58	15	.795	—
x-Indiana	48	27	.640	11
x-New York	46	26	.639	11½
x-Brooklyn	42	31	.575	16
x-Atlanta	42	33	.560	17
x-Chicago	40	33	.548	18
Boston	38	36	.514	20½
Milwaukee	36	37	.493	22
Philadelphia	30	43	.411	28
Washington	28	46	.378	30½
Toronto	27	47	.365	31½
Detroit	25	50	.333	34
Cleveland	22	51	.301	36
Orlando	19	56	.253	40
Charlotte	17	57	.230	41½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-San Antonio	55	19	.743	—
x-Oklahoma City	54	20	.730	1
x-Denver	50	24	.676	5
x-L.A. Clippers	49	26	.653	6½
x-Memphis	50	24	.676	5
Golden State	42	32	.568	13
Houston	41	33	.554	14
Utah	39	36	.520	16½
L.A. Lakers	38	36	.514	17
Dallas	36	37	.493	18½
Portland	33	41	.446	22
Minnesota	27	46	.370	27½
Sacramento	27	47	.365	28
New Orleans	26	48	.351	29
Phoenix	23	51	.311	32

x — clinched playoff berth; z — clinched conference.

Tuesday's results
Washington 90 Chicago 86
New York at Miami
Dallas at L.A. Lakers

Wednesday's games
All times Eastern
Brooklyn at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Washington at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Orlando at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Utah, 9 p.m.
Memphis at Portland, 10 p.m.
Houston at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
New Orleans at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Phoenix at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pt
d-Pittsburgh	37	28	9	0	0	124	88	56
d-Montreal	35	23	7	3	2	111	84	51
d-Winnipeg	38	18	18	0	2	93	115	38
Boston	35	23	8	2	2	100	77	50
Toronto	36	20	12	0	4	112	100	44
Ottawa	36	19	11	2	4	91	79	44
New Jersey	36	15	12	3	6	89	100	39
NY Islanders	37	18	16	3	0	108	115	39
NY Rangers	35	17	15	0	3	82	86	37
Washington	36	17	17	2	0	107	104	36
Carolina	35	16	17	1	1	96	106	34
Buffalo	37	14	17	2	4	98	114	34
Philadelphia	35	15	17	1	2	95	108	33
Tampa Bay	35	15	18	0	2	113	106	32
Florida	37	12	19	5	1	91	127	30

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	SL	GF	GA	Pt
d-Chicago	35	27	5	0	3	119	76	57
d-Anaheim	36	24	7	2	3	111	90	53
d-Minnesota	35	21	12	1	1	98	90	44
Vancouver	36	19	11	1	5	94	93	44
Los Angeles	35	20	12	1	2	103	88	43
San Jose	35	18	11	3	3	88	86	42
Detroit	36	18	13	3	2	94	94	41
St. Louis	34	18	14	1	1	98	94	38
Edmonton	35	15	13	4	3	91	96	37
Columbus	36	15	14	3	4	87	97	37
Nashville	36	14	14	2	6	89	99	36
Dallas	35	16	16	2	1	94	107	35
Phoenix	35	14	15	2	4	94	101	34
Calgary	34	13	17	1	3	94	118	30
Colorado	35	12	19	3	1	86	111	28

d — division leader. **Note** — division leaders ranked in top 3 positions per conference regardless of points; team winning in overtime or shootout gets 2 pts & a win in the W column; team losing in overtime or shootout gets 1 pt in OTL or SOL columns.

Tuesday's results
NY Islanders 5 Winnipeg 2
Boston 3 Ottawa 2
Florida 3 Tampa Bay 2 (SO)
Washington 5 Carolina 3
Buffalo 4 Pittsburgh 1
Colorado at Nashville
Los Angeles at Phoenix

Wednesday's games — All times Eastern
Montreal at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh at NY Rangers, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 10 p.m.
Dallas at Anaheim, 10 p.m.
Minnesota at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	1	0	1.000	—
Boston	1	0	1.000	—
Toronto	**0**	**1**	**.000**	**1**
Tampa Bay	0	1	.000	1
New York	0	1	.000	1

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	1	0	1.000	—
Detroit	1	0	1.000	—
Cleveland	1	0	.000	—
Minnesota	0	1	.000	1
Kansas City	0	1	.000	1

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	1	0	1.000	—
Los Angeles	1	0	1.000	—
Seattle	1	0	1.000	—
Texas	0	1	.000	1
Oakland	0	1	.000	1

Tuesday's results
Cleveland 4 **Toronto 1**
Baltimore 7 Tampa Bay 4
Texas at Houston
Seattle at Oakland

Wednesday's games — All times Eastern
Kansas City at Chicago White Sox, 2:10 p.m.
Texas at Houston, 2:10 p.m.
Detroit at Minnesota, 4:10 p.m.
Boston at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland at **Toronto**, 7:07 p.m.
Baltimore at Tampa Bay, 7:10 p.m.
Seattle at Oakland, 10:05 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Tuesday's results
Colorado at Milwaukee
St. Louis at Arizona
San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers

Wednesday's games — All times Eastern
Chicago Cubs at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
Miami at Washington, 7:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.
San Diego at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
Philadelphia at Atlanta, 7:10 p.m.
Colorado at Milwaukee, 8:10 p.m.
St. Louis at Arizona, 9:40 p.m.
San Francisco at L.A. Dodgers, 10:10 p.m.

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Simple yet stylish 2013 Honda CR-Z

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Review. If there's a standup in the Honda's 2013 lineup, it's the CR-Z, but not for the reasons you might expect

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

When it comes to the 2013 Honda CR-Z, the car's true purpose remains masked by its contradictions, even after receiving a modest makeover and powertrain upgrade.

Visually, the car appears as sporty as all get out and a modern interpretation of the cute little CRX buzz-bomb of the 1980s and early '90s. That Civic-based two-seater was the ideal dance partner for drivers of modest means who wanted something that was light on its feet, looked cool and could perform magic zipping around town or over twisty highways.

Honda envisions a significantly different role for the CR-Z, however, one that blends modest performance with an equally modest attempt at eco-friendliness with its gasoline-electric hybrid power system.

The result is a pretty decent (and attractive) commuter vehicle, but it's ultimately a car that won't set the hearts of sports-car fans aflutter. Like a timid swimmer, the CR-Z only sticks its big toe into the automotive mainstream, something that anyone wishing to avoid the sameness of your typical econo-box should find appealing.

The CR-Z comes with a selectable "3-Mode Drive System" with Sport, Normal and Econ settings to allow the driver a choice of efficiencies in operating performance and fuel consumption. Added for 2013 is a unique Plus Sport System. Provided the battery has at least a 50 per cent charge, pushing the "S+" button on the steering wheel while accelerating produces an extra boost of power that lasts for up to five seconds, regardless of which of the three drive-system modes you're in.

The simple but effective dash/control panel layout is a carryover from the last model.

Fuel economy should be close to the 2012 model's 6.5/5.3 (l/100 km) city/highway numbers, however better results can be achieved with the CVT option that should top out at about 5.6/5.0 city/highway. Other manufacturer's hybrids can do better, but most cost more than the CR-Z's estimated $24,500 asking price, which includes destination charges.

For that entry fee you can count on all of the usual and expected comfort features, along with ambient console lighting, high-intensity discharge headlights and a 360-watt premium audio system. Heated leather seats and a navigation system with rear-view camera are available with the Premium Package.

Otherwise the CR-Z's advantages appear to outweigh its drawbacks. The car's sharp styling, comfortable cabin and extra-roomy and versatile cargo area are not-to-be-overlooked virtues that make it an ideal touring car for two.

By comparison

1 Mini Cooper
Base price: $25,800

2 Fiat 500T
Base price: $22,600

3 Scion tC
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The closets are tidy, the kitchen is spotless and the garage is a mess. We can help you out with that. Here are some car and garage cleaning products to make life a little easier, just in time for spring cleaning season. Wheelbase Media is not affiliated with any of the companies mentioned here. We just like 'em.

WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

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Simply slick

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7 ways to get in the spring of things

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Thumb's up

The rechargeable, battery-powered ThumbGun polish dispenser attaches to your rotary or orbital polisher (it fits most popular brands) and allows you to dispense wax or polish without stopping. Add this device for about $70 US from thumbguntool.com.

Surf's up!

Surf City Garage has a range of interior and exterior detailing products that can help you clean winter grime off your vehicle. The line includes everything from detail sprays and exterior cleaners to leather care, metal polishes and scratch removers. Available at major retailers, all of the products come with a money-back guarantee. For more info, visit surfcitygarage.com.

Save your back

The Elevator, from Nomad Manufacturing, helps you stretch out over the engine bay to easily reach otherwise inaccessible areas. The Elevator, about $650 US, can be adjusted up to two metres above the ground and the shin pad supports help keep you comfortable. For more info, visit nomadmfg.ca.

2013 Dodge Dart GT shown.§

2013 Dodge Dart Rallye shown.§

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	2013 DODGE DART	2013 CIVIC◊	2013 ELANTRA◊	2013 COROLLA◊	2013 FOCUS◊
BEST AVAILABLE HIGHWAY FUEL ECONOMY¤	59 MPG	44 MPG	54 MPG	50 MPG	51 MPG
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LARGEST AVAILABLE TOUCH-SCREEN DISPLAY	8.4 INCHES	< 7 INCHES	< 7 INCHES	< 7 INCHES	8 INCHES
TOTAL PASSENGER ROOM (L)	2752.4	2678.0	2707.0	2568.0	2568.0
4-WHEEL DISC BRAKES	STD	AVAIL	STD	N/A	AVAIL
7-INCH TFT DISPLAY	AVAIL	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PROJECTOR HEADLAMPS	STD	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

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Dodge.ca/dart

Less Fuel. More Power. Great Value is a comparison between the 2013 and the 2012 Chrysler Canada product lineups. 40 MPG or greater claim (7.0 L/100 km) based on 2013 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption estimates. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on powertrain, driving habits and other factors. See retailer for additional EnerGuide details. ¤2013 Dodge Dart AERO (Late availability) – Hwy: 4.8 L/100 km (59 MPG) and City: 7.3 L/100 km (39 MPG). 2013 Civic Si 2.4 L i-VTEC® curb 4-cylinder Manual – Hwy: 6.4 L/100 km (44 MPG) and City: 10.0 L/100 km (28 MPG). 2013 Elantra L 1.8 L Dual CVVT DOHC 16V Engine Automatic – Hwy: 5.2 L/100 km (54 MPG) and City: 7.2 L/100 km (39 MPG). 2013 Corolla 1.8 L 4-Cylinder DOHC 16V VVT-i DIS ETCS-I Engine Manual – Hwy: 5.6 L/100 km (50 MPG) and City: 7.4 L/100 km (38 MPG). 2013 Focus S 2.0L Ti-VCT GDI I-4 Manual – Hwy: 5.5 L/100 km (51 MPG) and City: 7.8 L/100 km (38 MPG). Wise customers read the fine print: •, *, ♦, †, § 2013 Dodge Dart offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating retailers on or after March 1, 2013. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. All pricing includes freight ($1,595), air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. •$16,995 Purchase Price applies to the new 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) only. ♦4.99% lease financing available through WS Leasing Ltd. (a wholly owned subsidiary of Westminster Savings Credit Union) to qualified customers on new 2012, 2013 and 2014 Jeep Grand Cherokee and Dodge Dart models at participating retailers in Ontario, New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. 4.99% lease financing for up to 60 months available on the new 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) model to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. See your retailer for complete details. Example: 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) with a Purchase Price of $16,575 leased at 4.99% over 60 months with $2,179 down payment, equals 130 bi-weekly payments of $99 with a cost of borrowing of $2,976.20 and a total obligation of $14,608.10. 22,000 kilometre/year allowance. Charge of $0.18 per excess kilometre. Some conditions apply. †0.0% purchase financing for 36 months available on the new 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance on 2012/2013 Jeep Compass, Patriot and 2013 Dodge Dart models. Example: 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) with a Purchase Price of $16,995, with a $0 down payment, financed at 0.0% for 36 months equals 78 bi-weekly payments of $217.88; cost of borrowing of $0 and a total obligation of $16,995. §2013 Dodge Dart GT shown. Late availability. 2013 Dodge Dart Rallye shown. Price: $21,090. **Based on 2013 *Ward's* upper small sedan costing under $25,000. ◊Competitors' information obtained from Autodata, EnerGuide Canada and manufacturer's website as of March 12, 2013. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. ™The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc.

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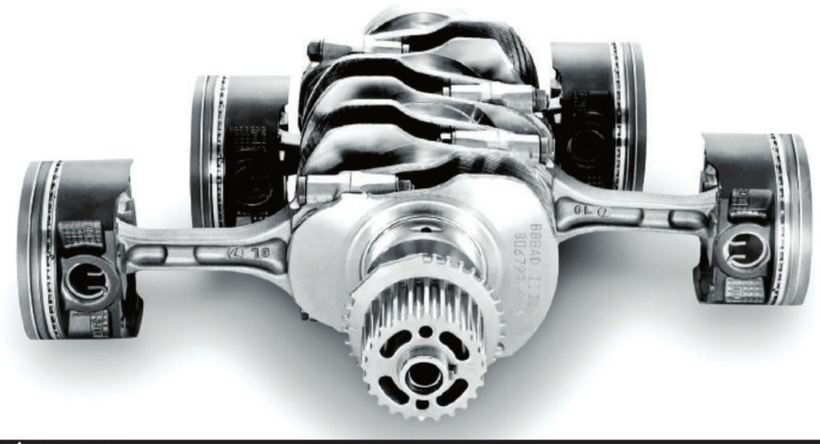
Subaru's 'boxer' engine all about balance

Driving Force.
A boxer engine provides predictability and makes it easy to service a vehicle

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca



Subaru's boxer engine. CONTRIBUTED

To most people, a boxer is someone who makes his living in the ring. But there's another definition in the automotive world — it's a type of engine, and the only kind you'll find in a Subaru vehicle.

"It's also called a horizontally opposed or flat engine," says Ted Lalka, vice-president of product planning and marketing for Subaru Canada.

"They tend to be compact and lightweight, and they produce a fair amount of power to weight. They're still used in aviation for those reasons, and our company has a background in the aircraft industry, so we developed an expertise in these types of engines."

The heart of an engine is a large, heavy shaft called the crankshaft. It's attached to pistons, which slide inside cylinders when they're powered by the exploding force of gasoline that's been detonated by the spark plugs. The pistons turn the crankshaft, and its spinning motion is what ultimately turns the car's wheels.

It's similar to the way your legs move up and down to turn the pedals on a bicycle, with that power used to turn the wheels.

On most engines, the pistons are above the crankshaft, either in a straight line (called an inline engine, the most common configuration for four-cylinder engines), or slanted in two banks, forming a V that gives V6 and V8 engines their names. But on a boxer engine, the four or six pistons lie flat on either side of the crankshaft, where they move horizontally in their cylinders to provide power.

A boxer engine isn't as tall as a regular engine, which helps to lower the vehicle's centre of gravity. This improves handling and stability.

"With the boxer engine, it has very good balance between the left and right side, so the vehicle handles in a very predictable manner," Lalka says. "In addition, it makes servicing the vehicle easy. A lot of the components can be placed on top of the engine, so the alternator, water pump, and even the oil filter are right on top where they're easier to reach."

Several companies have used the boxer engine design over the years. Porsche currently uses it in the 911, Boxster and Cayman. Other cars that have used it in the past include the Chevrolet Corvair and original Volkswagen Beetle.

A different type of engine

- The boxer engine is part of Subaru's "symmetrical" all-wheel drive configuration, in which all driveline components are aligned on the car's north-south axis for better balance.
- It's believed that horizontally opposed engines got the name "boxer" because the piston movement looks like boxers jabbing at each other.

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There's a good chance you can find out if you'll be stranded on the side of the road, before you ever leave home.

JEFF MELNYCHUK / WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Are you really road ready?

Auto Know. Planning and preparation can save you from becoming stranded on your next road trip

Getting stranded on the side of the road happens to everyone at one point or another, but holiday trauma is less likely with a little planning.

Yes, indeed, according to auto experts, planning and preparation actually works. Who knew. Sarcasm aside, of course we know this, so why don't many of us follow our gut instincts ... or all of that professional advice?

Take some time and invest in an inspection, especially if you have a long road trip planned ... and before it's too late. Most car manufacturers recommend regular service according to what's showing on the odometer, but we have some tips that just aren't in the manual. Yes, there's a manual.

Boiling over and leaking

No matter how fresh and green engine coolant looks, it becomes acidic over time. That stuff will eat your engine from the inside out. So it needs to be tested and changed if necessary.

Then there are the hoses. If you're doing the inspection yourself, check them for leaks, cracks and swelling, which are all signs of fatigue. While you're under there (with the engine off), never, ever remove the radiator cap unless the engine is cold, never wear loose clothing or jewelry/watches and, for goodness sake, take off that necktie.

Oil changes are still needed

Many car companies recommend an oil-and-filter change every three months or 5,000 to 8,000 kilometres, while some want you to do it less often. Consult your owners' manual to find out regular maintenance schedule specifics, and here's why.

Worn-out oil actually works against your engine, acting as an abrasive instead of a lubricant, causing excessive wear and premature failure). Before heading out on the open road for a 5,000 km road trip, give it a change. Or, if the change is scheduled to occur sometime during the trip, drop off the vehicle for a few hours at a lube shop along the way and plan a bus trip or a wax-museum visit.

Aerodynamics

Not exactly wind-cheating, is it? With today's high gas prices, aerodynamics should be a factor in how you travel. Just because you have an old roof rack for the bags doesn't mean you should use it.

Road tunes

Don't forget your iPod (and your cable) and the laptop to download new road tunes when you bed down for the night.

Tires

Under-inflated tires generate excessive heat — a tire killer — and they're tough to roll, which increases fuel consumption.

Headlights

Headlights get just as messed up with bugs as the windshield does, so when it's time to clean the windshield, do the headlights. Sounds like a good "game" for the kids.

Turn signals

You remember turn signals? They've been around a long time. When you're in unfamiliar territory, use them to reduce the likelihood of collisions that might strand you somewhere you don't want to be.

Locks, seals and hinges

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Brakes

Perhaps no other part of your vehicle takes as much punishment as the brakes. Have a technician inspect the system for wear and proper operation.

Since your minivan/maxitruck/Mini Cooper will most likely be packed to the gills with family members (who you presumably love) for a road trip, it's no time to lose your brakes. A lesson we've learned the hard way is never, ever scrimp on brake pads since there can be dramatic performance differences.

Wheel alignment

Well, you made it through pothole season with your teeth and tailbone intact, but how's your car doing? Because of the delicate calibration of all four wheels in today's automobiles, hitting just one pothole can throw the alignment out of whack.

Uneven tire wear and/or steering difficulty can point to alignment problems. And since your suspension is much "stiffer" in the winter (cold contracts the parts and turns normally soft rubber bushings into rock-like pieces), the "thud" from a big pothole in the spring can do some serious damage. Best get on that.

Windshield woes

A dirty windshield causes eye fatigue and poses a safety hazard. Like, you haven't heard that a million times before. But just because you have new wiper blades doesn't mean you have clear vision.

On older vehicles that see a lot of highway use, the windshield becomes sandblasted and pitted, creating a fuzzy, hazy view. The problem is amplified at dawn and dusk and when there's glare off a wet road. If you can swing it — perhaps even your insurance policy covers it — get a fresh piece of glass installed.

Use your lights

First, if you're going to be on the road, your headlights are going to be just as caked with bugs as your windshield, so clean them often.

Second, sloppy driving habits at home, like not signaling, are not going to cut it in areas of the country you know nothing about. By being one of those frustrating tourists who can't read the no-left-turn signs, you're a collision just waiting to happen if you don't signal.

Batteries

They're fickle creatures that quit at will without a care in world what you happen to be doing at the time. The only accurate way to detect a weak battery is with professional equipment. For routine care, however, scrape away corrosion from posts and cable connections; clean all surfaces; retighten all connections.

Not the same old song and dance

Auto Pilot. The Internet is changing the way we purchase vehicles —and dealers are finally catching on

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
@metronews.ca

Back in pioneer times, before coffee went grande latte, TV went reality and information went digital, the car buying process at a dealership had a distinctly operatic feel.

It took way too long — in some cases, four hours plus. The drama seemed forced. Too many characters kept showing up — particularly that general sales manager guy who didn't talk much but had to have a hand in everything.

Fast forward to these modern times and now customers have access to the Internet.

According to the 2011 Google Automotive Shopping Behaviour Study, customers spend up to eight hours researching their purchase.

So now, when we show up at the dealership, we're much further along in the process. Often times we've already decided on the make and model and trim line. We're just there to get the vehicle at a fair price, and get the heck out of there.

But no … The salesperson insists you take your place on stage, for the full four-hour performance.

Take heart, however, that many enlightened automakers and dealers are very aware of this disconnect and have reshaped, or are in the process of reshaping, the sales process to better serve the Internet-savvy customer.

Toyota Canada has rolled out a special version of its already customer-friendly sales process, designed specifically for customers who don't want or need guidance about vehicle selection.

And Lincoln Concierge, which launches in Canada later this year, will see real live Lincoln people interacting with customers as they go through their online research. When the customer is ready for the dealership step, the Lincoln Concierge will facilitate the transition.

"The customer obviously has to agree to the passing of the information," says Peter Jansen, Lincoln Canada's national sales manager. But if they do, he adds, the customer will be rewarded with a "better first introduction" to the dealership world. For example, dealership staff will already know the customer's name, profile and vehicle choice, and know they are a customer seeking an "expedient" transaction experience.

One of the more proactive dealers in Canada is the Trotman Automotive Group (TAG) in B.C. The main elements of the Trotman's express lane are that customers get pre-approved for financing, and get monthly payment ranges and pricing information at the start of the process. To save time, the used car manager will offer to appraise the customer's trade while they are test-driving the new vehicle.

"This is all information customers need to make a good decision, so let's acknowledge that and provide it to them proactively," says TAG president Mike Trotman.

The sales manager is still involved, but introduces himself or herself early, and tries to be a force for quickness, rather than a force for stretching it out. Trotman figures the process shaves half to two-thirds off the time of a conventional one.

Customers love it. "They tell us they never bought a vehicle so quick, so easy, and with so much fun before."

In other words, no more waiting around until the Fat Lady sings.

The management team at Trotman Automotive Group, Mitch Trotman, left, Mike Trotman and Brad Trotman. CONTRIBUTED

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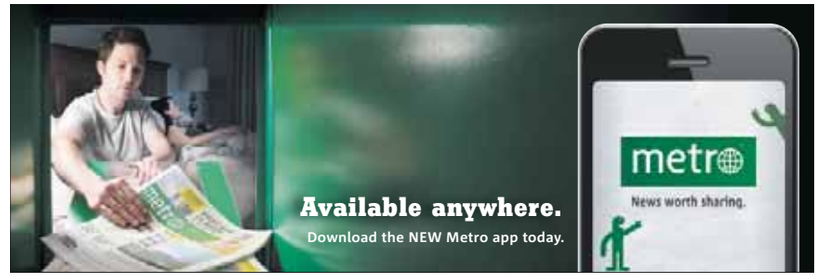

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Do whatever it takes to make an impression on people in positions of power. With your drive and determination you can and you must find ways to get yourself noticed.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Forget about the negative things in your life — the bills, the quarrels, etc. — and focus on your dreams. The planets indicate that at least one of those dreams will come true over the next few weeks.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
If you need to improve your financial situation then it's time to make that big move from the planning stage to the doing stage. You know what changes need to be made, so get on with it and make them.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Changes seem to be coming quickly at the moment and it may all be getting a bit too much for you. Calm down, make yourself a nice cup of tea and let the planets work their magic. You'll be OK.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
It seems you have your fingers in too many pies at the moment and there is a serious possibility they could get burned. Maybe it's time to back off a bit, at least for a while. Sort out your priorities.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Your creative juices are bubbling and although some say your ideas are far-fetched, you know they can work. You have so much confidence in your abilities there is nothing you cannot do.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will be on good terms with just about everyone today but especially with a group of people who like to go to extremes. That's all fine and dandy but watch out you don't hurt yourself, or other people.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Nothing seems to faze you at the moment. Is that because your circumstances have changed for the better or is it because you finally understand that life is supposed to be fun? Whatever the reason, enjoy!

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Minor problems will likely be magnified into major setbacks today, at least in your head. It is essential that you don't let your fears get out of hand. What happened to that happy-go-lucky, optimistic Sag?

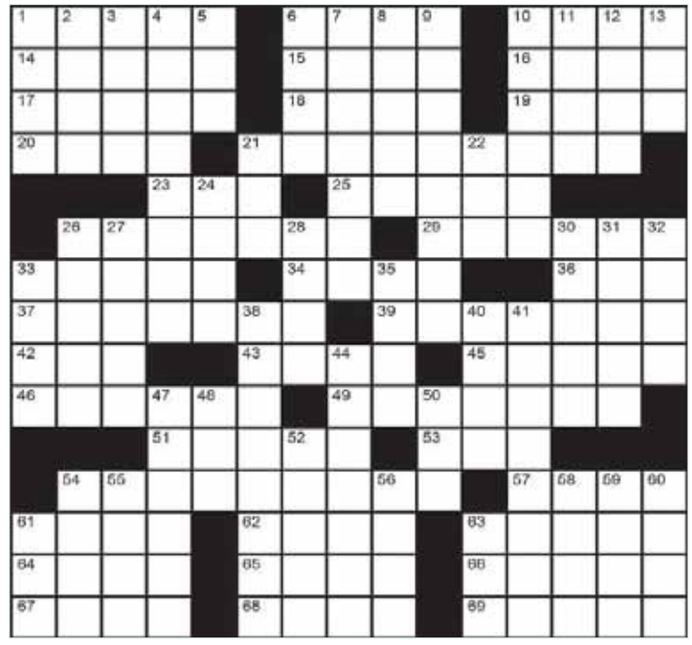
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Pluto in your birth sign gives you great power but it also brings with it responsibility for how you use that power. You may be tempted to use your authority to cut corners today but that would be a mistake.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Others may be urging you to do this or do that but don't listen to them. There is no need to panic or change your lifestyle. Changes will take place but let them happen gradually, not all in one go.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
What is happening in your life may be unsettling but it is also necessary if you are to lead a fuller existence. Whatever is going on won't be happening next week. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

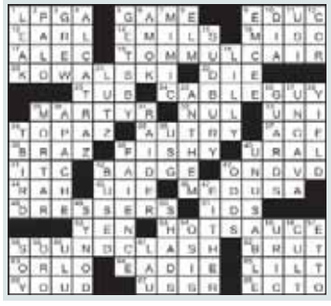
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Winnie-the-Pooh greeting
6. Long-range weapon, commonly
10. Taj†Mahal's site
14. Shake like _ __
15. Actor, Benicio Del __
16. Alaska's famous Glacier
17. Alberta tourist hotspot
18. Canadian news anchor who is 3x Olympian, Rosey __
19. Curves
20. Ice floes animal
21. Winnipeg-born singer/songwriter Chantal
23. Singer Ms. DiFranco
25. Right-hand page
26. Lady Gaga's "Bad __"
29. Virgil epic
33. Tailor's lines
34. Subtraction opp.
36. Francis __, "Love Story" score composer
37. "Piece of cake!": 2 wds.
39. Character in Great Expectations
42. Superagent on "Entourage"
43. "Hey! Hold on _ __!"
45. Makes _ _ (Is untidy)
46. City of Russia
49. Trinidad music style
51. Alan __ (Canadian hubby of Suzanne Somers)
53. Racecar driver Mr. Fabi
54. Fundraising entities
57. Queen's 'Bohemian', e.g.
61. Enthusiasm
62. Swimmer's circuits
63. Shrek's beloved Princess
64. The Phantom's name in Gaston Leroux's classic novel The Phantom of the Opera
65. Itemize
66. Songs
67. Canadian comedian/actor, Jon __
68. Musher's 'vehicle'
69. Some ducks

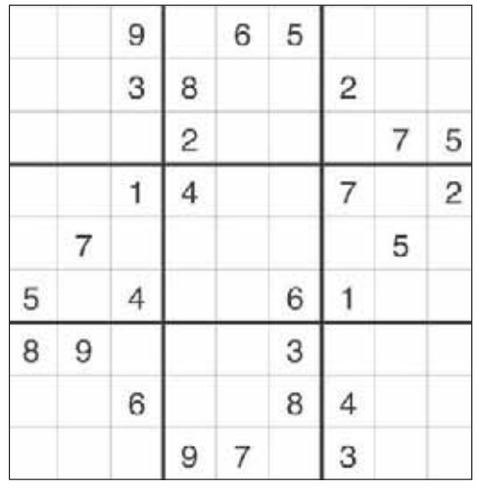
Down
1. Montreal hockey players, to fans
2. Wings: Latin
3. Ms. Horne
4. Chief Anchor of "CTV National News", Lisa __
5. Switch selection
6. Old road of Rome
7. Emergency situation: 2 wds.
8. Alla __ (Music term)
9. Daniel Day-Lewis film, "The Last of the __"
10. Books-selling website
11. Wise adviser
12. Humphrey's part in "Casablanca" (1942)
13. MGM's motto, __ Gratia Artis (Art for Art's Sake)
21. Family
22. Used up
24. Astronaut employer
26. '70s fashion, for instance
27. "Wonderwall" band
28. Islets
30. Ils opposites
31. "_ __ feel that way." (Concurring comment)
32. "Buenos __!"
33. Thailand, formerly
35. Prefix meaning 'Ten'
38. Log-processing sites
40. Mr. Diggs
41. Shopper's dream site
44. "The Twilight Saga: __" (2010)
47. Ottawa-born actress Sarah
48. Rowboat steerer
50. Mil. officers
52. Internet commerce, _-__
54. Kind of mackerel
55. Brushed stuff
56. Approximated, for short
58. Sharpen skills
59. Afresh
60. Backstage __
61. Last letter
63. Alberta's McMurray, et al.

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku

1	6	2	3	8	5	7	9	4
8	5	9	7	1	4	6	3	2
3	7	4	2	9	6	5	1	8
9	3	5	1	2	7	8	4	6
7	4	8	5	6	9	3	2	1
6	2	1	8	4	3	9	5	7
4	8	6	9	3	1	2	7	5
5	1	3	6	7	2	4	8	9
2	9	7	4	5	8	1	6	3

Today
2°/-3°
Partly cloudy

Thursday
10°/0°
Mainly sunny

Your #1 weather forecast now available in HD.
Check your local listings for details.
The Weather Network HD

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OFFER ENDS APRIL 30TH

KIA

DARE TO COMPARE SALES EVENT

DESIGNED TO WIN YOU OVER

kia.ca

0%** + PAY 90 DAYS∞

— ON ANY 2013 KIA —

AWD 4x4 AVAILABLE ALL-WHEEL DRIVE

7 PASSENGER SEATING AVAILABLE

Sorento SX shown△

2013 SORENTO

HWY (A/T): 6.5L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 9.8L/100KM

UP TO **0% + $3,000 +** PAY UNTIL FALL

IN LOAN SAVINGS□

ON SORENTO ONLY

COMPARE MORE HERE

OR VISIT WWW.KIA.CA/COMPARESORENTO

- MORE MAXIMUM CARGO SPACE THAN HONDA CR-V[1]
- 2 MORE YEARS OF WARRANTY THAN FORD ESCAPE[2]
- MORE HORSEPOWER THAN TOYOTA RAV4[3]

$221˅ bi-weekly at **0% APR** for 60 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT**. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees and **$3,000 IN LOAN SAVINGS**.□ Offer based on 2013 Sorento 3.5L LX with a purchase price of $31,678.

Rio4 SX with Navigation shown△

2013 RIO 4-DOOR

INCL. AIR, KEYLESS ENTRY & HEATED SEATS

HWY (M/T): 5.3L/100KM
CITY (M/T): 6.9L/100KM

OWN IT FROM **$95**≠ BI-WEEKLY

WITH **$0** DOWN

AT 1.49% APR

INCLUDES 6 BI-WEEKLY PAYMENTS ON US' ON RIO ONLY

COMPARE MORE HERE

OR VISIT WWW.KIA.CA/COMPARERIO

- INCLUDES AC, POWER WINDOWS AND DOORS, KEYLESS ENTRY, HEATED AND POWER SEATS AND MIRRORS, 60/40 SPLIT-FOLDING REAR SEAT, FOG LIGHTS, CRUISE CONTROL, VOICE ACTIVATION, WIRELESS STREAMING, BIGGER TIRES AND MORE FEATURES THAN THE HYUNDAI ACCENT L.

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT.** Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$900 "6 BI-WEEKLY PAYMENTS ON US" SAVINGS˄.** Offer based on 2013 Rio 4-door LX + MT with a purchase price of $17,383.

Soul 4u Luxury shown△

2013 SOUL

INCL. AIR, KEYLESS ENTRY & SATELLITE RADIO

HWY (M/T): 6.7L/100KM
CITY (M/T): 8.5L/100KM

OWN IT FROM **$124**≠ BI-WEEKLY

WITH **$0** DOWN

AT 1.49% APR

OR

RECEIVE UP TO $1,500 IN CASH SAVINGS‡ (ON SELECT MODELS)

COMPARE MORE HERE

OR VISIT WWW.KIA.CA/COMPARESOUL

- 2 MORE YEARS OF WARRANTY THAN TOYOTA MATRIX[4]
- MORE HORSEPOWER THAN SCION XB[5]
- MORE PASSENGER VOLUME THAN NISSAN CUBE[6]

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT**. Offer includes delivery, destination, and fees. Offer based on 2013 Soul 2.0L 2u MT with a purchase price of $21,378.

5 Year Warranty*

WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED

*5-year/100,000 km worry-free comprehensive warranty.

Best Global Brands 2012 Interbrand

GTA KIA .ca

Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes delivery and destination fees and all mandatory government levies.
Prices do not include licensing or applicable taxes.

KIA

The Power to Surprise

Offer(s) available on select new 2013 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery by April 30, 2013. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,650, $34 tire recycling/filter charges, $5 OMVIC fee, environmental fee and $100 A/C charge (where applicable) and excludes licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399) and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available. **0% purchase financing is available on select new 2013 Kia models O.A.C. Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for complete details. Representative financing example based on 2013 Sorento LX + AT (SR75BD) with a selling price of $29,078, financed at 0% APR for 60 months. 130 bi-weekly payments equal $224 per payment with a down payment/equivalent trade of $0. **"Don't Pay For 90 Days" offer (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing on select new 2012/2013 models. No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After 90 days, interest accrues and the purchaser will repay both the principal and interest monthly over the contract's term. ∞"Don't Pay Until Fall" offer is available O.A.C. to eligible retail customers who finance or lease a new 2013 Sorento from a participating dealer between April 2-30, 2013. No interest will accrue during the first 150 days of the finance contract. After 180 days, interest accrues and the purchaser will repay both the principal and interest monthly over the contract's term. Offer cannot be combined with "Don't Pay For 90 Days" offer. ≠"6 Bi-Weekly Payments On Us" offer is available on approved credit to eligible retail customers who finance or lease any new 2013 Rio from a participating dealer between April 2-30, 2013. Customers will receive a cheque in the amount of six payments (excluding taxes) to a maximum of $300 per month or can choose up to $900 reductions from the selling/lease price after taxes. See your dealer for complete details. Offer ends April 30, 2013. Cannot be combined with "Don't Pay For 90 Days" offer. □"$3,000 loan savings" offer is available on approved credit to eligible retail customers who finance a new 2013 Sorento 3.5L LX (SR75ED) trim only from a participating dealer between April 2-30, 2013. $3,000 loan savings will be applied as a reduction from the selling price before taxes. See your dealer for complete details. Offer ends April 30, 2013. ˅Bi-weekly finance payment O.A.C. for new 2013 Sorento LX (SR75ED)/2013 Rio4 LX + MT (RO542D)/2013 Soul 2.0L 2u MT (SO553D) based on a selling price of $31,678/$17,383/$21,378 is $221/$95/$124 with an APR of 0%/1.49%/1.49% for 60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of $0/$4,886/$6,337 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. ‡"Up to $1,500 cash savings" offer is available on the cash purchase of select new 2013 Soul models from a participating dealer between April 2–30, 2013, is deducted from the selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease and finance offers. Some conditions apply. [1]Sorento LX 2,052L vs. CR-V LX 2,007L, with second-row seats folded. [2]60 months/100,000km vs. 36 months/60,000km. [3]Sorento LX 191hp vs. RAV4 LE 176hp. [4]60 months/100,000km vs. 36 months/60,000km. [5]Soul 2.0U 164hp vs. Scion xB 158hp. [6]Soul 1.6L 2,897L vs. Cube S 2,766L. △Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2013 Sorento 3.5L SX AWD 7-seater (SR75XD)/2013 Rio4 SX with Navigation AT (RO749D)/2013 Soul 2.0L 4u Luxury AT (SO759D) is $43,045/$23,450/$27,345 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,650/$1,455/$1,650, environmental fee and A/C charge ($100, where applicable). Licence, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. Available at participating dealers. ˄Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2013 Sorento 2.4L GDI 4-cyl (A/T)/2013 Rio 1.6L GDI 4-cyl (M/T)/2013 Soul 2.0L MPI 4-cyl (M/T). These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.